

**34 BAPTISTS**

# ***Cuba Asks Punishment of 'Spies'***

STATINTL

HAVANA, May 15 (UPI) — The

Cuban government today demanded up to 30 years in prison for 34 Baptist missionaries and laymen accused of committing espionage on behalf of the United States.

The defendants in the 13-hour trial included three women and two Americans — the Rev. Herbert Caudill, 61, of Clinchport, Va., and his son-in-law, the Rev. James David Fite, 31, of Ft. Worth, Tex.

Sentencing is expected within eight days.

In winding up his case within the forbidding Cabana fortress across the bay from Havana itself, the prosecutor reduced to 10 years the term demanded for the Rev. Caudill.

Originally the prosecution had called for a 30-year hail term, but this was lowered because of the Rev. Caudill's age. An 18-year prison term was demanded for the Rev. Fite.

The defendants were part of a group of 53 Baptists arrested last April and charged with being "Bible-packing Central Intelligence Agency men."

Only 34 were placed on trial, however, and it was assumed the other 19 had been released.

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